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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The odds of this being read, are slim at best, but this is one thing that requires attention.

First I would like to state that this suit should never have been permitted. I have been a software developer for 18 years now, and I remember back to the days before Microsoft. Microsoft brought control to a profession that was totally out of control. Everyone had their own set of standards, which made it next to impossible to build any type of software application, in any timely manner. All that Microsoft has done, is act like any other healthy company in this country has. Companies such as Oracle and Sun, are examples of companies that cannot keep up with Microsoft, so what have they done, gone and cried to the Government. This is no different than little children crying to the teacher, because big Johnny did not give Teddy a piece of the pie.

The proposed settlement, although costly to institute, would enable companies like Oracle to watch over Microsoft's practices, without hindering the growth of the software industry. The settlement would also permit the hardware manufacturers the freedom they should have to install any operating system, and software applications, that they so choose. This is one area which I did think Microsoft was out of control. They should never have been permitted to force the hardware companies to install the Microsoft products. In saying that, I also think the hardware companies CEO's should have had the guts to stand up to Microsoft, on this matter. A law suit was not needed to fix this problem.

In closing, when this law suit was filed, and brought to court, that started the recession, that this country, is currently in. The stock market started faltering within a couple of weeks, of the court proceedings, and the tech arena started to fail. People, and companies started to loose money, and the trickle down effect went into full force. As usual, the government placed there hands into an area they knew nothing about, and screwed it up. Settle this suit now!

Dan Alustiza